

Mr. Speaker, Fitz is known for his diligent service to others from all walks of life. Ed was a recipient of the Caring Hearts Award from The Gavin Foundation in South Boston. He was also recognized as the Volunteer of the Year for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Correction at the State House for his tireless years of service to incarcerated individuals.

Ed has had the good fortune to be married to his wife, Joanne for 45 years; they are the proud parents of three children and ten grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to join with Edward T. "Fitz" Fitzpatrick's family, friends, and contemporaries to thank him for his remarkable service to his country, his community and to the working men and women of the Greater Boston area.

RECOGNIZING BOY SCOUT TROOP 6

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Boy Scout Troop 6 as they achieve the distinguished Centennial celebration in the storied history of scouting in America. Formed in 1915, Troop 6 is the oldest continuously operating scout troop in the Dan Beard Council, and now marks its 100th year.

Over those 100 years, scouting values have played an important role in our nation's history, contributing to the character development of millions of youth.

Leading boys from the first steps of Tenderfoot through the rank of Eagle Scout, through merit badges, summer camps, and service projects, Troop 6 has instilled character and moral compass in countless young men over its 100 years.

America and Ohio benefit from skills and values that scouting instills in our young men including self-reliance, a duty to God and country, appreciation of the outdoors, and committed citizenship. Our nation could benefit from more people taking the Scout Law to heart.

Troop 6 has shown a dedicated commitment to our community and nation, leading numerous service projects and supporting our military members.

Southwest Ohio is privileged to have such a distinguished scout troop. I look forward to Troop 6's next 100 years as they continue their legacy of service.

RECOGNIZING BILL AND DOROTHY BIZZINI

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bill and Dorothy Bizzini as the recipients of the Merced College Foundation's 2015 President's Medallion Award. Bill and Dorothy Bizzini have served their community with distinction, volunteering their time and donating to a wide range of causes and organi-

zations in and around Merced County, California.

Bill and Dorothy Bizzini will have been married for 60 years in June and are the proud parents of four successful children. Bill and Dorothy graduated from Gustine High School. Dorothy earned a Registered Nursing Diploma from Sacramento Junior College and a B.A. in Nursing Education from CSU Sacramento. Bill majored in Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, Davis. Bill and Dorothy were the first in their families to earn college degrees. They have owned and operated the Atwater Veterinary Clinic, providing quality medical care for both large and small animals, thus serving the needs of the area's farmers, ranchers, and community members since 1960.

Bill and Dorothy Bizzini have contributed their volunteer time by serving on many local, state, and national professional organizations and boards. Among these organizations are the Merced College Board of Trustees, the UC Merced Foundation, CSU Stanislaus Foundation, Atwater Chamber of Commerce, Greater Merced Chamber of Commerce, California Veterinary Medical Association, Atwater Methodist Church, Soroptimist Club of Atwater, Castle Air Force Base Community Council and Bloss Memorial Hospital Board of Directors.

The Bizzini's have always promoted education throughout their lives. In 2004 the Classroom Building at California State University Stanislaus was renamed Dorothy and Bill Bizzini Hall after a pledge of \$1.35 million. Dorothy is currently on the University of California Merced Foundation's Board of Trustees and Bill served until 2012. Bill and Dorothy went to college on scholarships and they clearly understand how important it is to help others achieve a higher education.

Bill and Dorothy have inspired many others to follow their example of service above self, being active members of Rotary International and have attended 14 Rotary International Conventions. They have made numerous humanitarian trips to foreign countries, providing health services to families and children in Guatemala, Ghana, Venezuela, Mexico, El Salvador, Thailand and many other countries.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I recognize the lifetime of commitment that Bill and Dorothy have given to the Merced County community. They are richly deserving of all honor and praise associated with the Merced College Foundation's President's Medallion.

STRENGTHENING TRADE-RELATED PROTECTIONS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, when foreign countries selectively enforce their environmental rules to advantage their own companies, it undercuts U.S. companies and it harms the environment. Our trade negotiators should have the tools they need to adequately enforce environmental commitments.

The problem is proliferating. A survey conducted this year by the American Chamber of Commerce in China found that 57 percent—a multi-point increase from last year—of U.S.

companies operating in China believed they were being unfairly targeted compared to their local competition. The U.S. should have the tools to correct such disadvantages. The Green 301 Act would be an important tool in this regard.

The Green 301 Act strengthens Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 to strengthen the U.S. Trade Representative's ability to ensure that the law is applied equally, that bad actors are held accountable, and that good actors are not penalized for following the rules. By making sure U.S. companies aren't forced to play by a different and more costly set of rules abroad, we can bolster environmental protections and best practices, as well as U.S. exports. The selective enforcement of environmental laws damages both trade and our environment.

Specifically, the Green 301 Act would allow the U.S. to impose penalties on countries that fail to effectively enforce their environmental laws, that waived or otherwise derogated from their environmental laws, that fail to provide for judicial proceedings giving access to remedies for violations of their environmental laws, that fail to provide appropriate and effective sanctions or remedies for violations of their environmental laws, or that fail to effectively implement environmental commitments they agreed to with the United States.

Additionally, Section 301 enables outside groups to petition USTR to take action. Any outside organization may file a Section 301 request with USTR, which must then consult with the petitioners, and report back within 45 days on whether they will or won't act on the petition and why or why not. The Green 301 Act would ensure this process is expanded to environmental violations.

U.S. trade agreements attempt to limit these unfair double standards. Dozens of countries, however, fall outside our trade commitments. To level the playing field in these countries, and to stop a race to the bottom, Congress included Section 301 in the Trade Act of 1974. This section authorizes the U.S. to take action to remove "any act, policy, or practice of a foreign government that . . . is unjustified, unreasonable, or discriminatory, and that burdens or restricts U.S. commerce." Congress later expanded Section 301 to deal specifically with IP issues, and later amended it to address labor standards. It is time that Congress expand it again to meet environmental challenges.

IN HONOR OF DR. NORMAN C. FRANCIS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an esteemed educator and outstanding civic leader, Dr. Norman C. Francis. As the nation's longest-serving university president, Dr. Francis will be retiring after 47 remarkable years as president of Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans, Louisiana. A reception hosted by the Honorable Mary Landrieu and the Honorable Alexis Herman will be held in his honor on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in Washington, DC.

Born and raised in Lafayette, Louisiana, Dr. Francis, the son of a barber and a home-maker, first set foot on the campus of Xavier University as a student in 1948 and immediately stood out among his peers as a leader in all areas of academic excellence. Fore-shadowing the legacy he would later build on this very campus, his fellow classmates elected him class president each year of his undergraduate study and student body president his senior year. When he graduated with honors in 1952, Dr. Francis left Xavier knowing that he would return someday.

Later that year, Dr. Francis became the first African American to attend Loyola Law School in New Orleans. After graduating in 1955, he served our country with honor and distinction in the U.S. Army's Third Armored Division. After his honorable discharge, Dr. Francis worked on special assignment with the U.S. Attorney General to help desegregate federal agencies.

Following his completion of this assignment, Dr. Francis found himself at a crossroads. He had a promising legal career ahead of him yet he yearned to be of service in higher education. Choosing the latter, where he thought his talents could be of greater use, Dr. Francis returned to his alma mater, becoming dean of men in 1957. Rising quickly through the ranks, he became the first African American and first layman to serve as president of Xavier University in 1968.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Francis has revolutionized Xavier University in countless ways during his 47-year tenure as president. Under his leadership, the university's enrollment has more than doubled, its endowment has grown eight-fold, and its campus has expanded from only five buildings to sixteen buildings on more than sixty acres.

These changes are also reflected in the young leaders and model graduates that Xavier continues to produce. Xavier University is recognized as the leading producer of African American undergraduates who go on to complete medical school and one of the top three producers of African American Doctor of Pharmacy degree recipients. Xavier ranks first nationally in the number of African American students earning undergraduate degrees in biology and life sciences, chemistry, physics, and pharmacy.

Dr. Francis' sphere of influence has not been confined to the campus limits of Xavier University. A nationally recognized figure, Dr. Francis has served in advisory roles to eight U.S. presidents on education and civil rights issues. He has also served on 54 boards and commissions. He has received 42 honorary degrees from other universities and numerous awards and commendations in recognition of his leadership in higher education as well as his selfless service to his community and to our nation. In 2006, then-President George W. Bush honored Dr. Francis with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Norman C. Francis for his significant contributions to our nation and for his 47 outstanding years as President of Xavier University of Louisiana. His visionary leadership has helped transform this university for the better to provide students with a fulfilling college experience, a quality education focusing on academic excellence, and the necessary tools with which to live successful and productive lives.

HONORING CHIEF THOMAS LAWS

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Thomas Laws, the Fire Chief of Granite Falls, North Carolina. On May 1, 2015, Chief Laws will retire after thirty-two years of successful, dedicated service.

Chief Laws began his service in Granite Falls in 1982 as a firefighter. Just three years later, he was promoted to Chief. During his tenure, Chief Laws maintained a standard of excellence in firefighting equipment, tactics, and training. He was also instrumental in obtaining several program grants that have made the department what it is today. Thanks in large part to Chief Laws' dedication, the local fire department in Granite Falls consistently handled emergencies in a timely and efficient manner.

The exemplary leadership of Chief Laws is something that all of us can admire and respect. As such, I am proud to honor Fire Chief Thomas Laws for his faithful service to the people of Granite Falls and congratulate him on his retirement.

CELEBRATING ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, INC. GREAT LAKES REGION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate 95 years of service by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and to wish them well as they begin their 81st Annual Great Lakes Regional Leadership Conference tomorrow in Rosemont, Illinois.

The conference, led by Great Lakes Regional Director Michelle Porter Norman, will capture the essence of all that Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated embodies . . . to be "A Community Conscious, Action Oriented Organization". Their National Programs, including Z-HOPE, Stork's Nest and Elder Care, provide necessary assistance to members of our communities across the globe, to address societal ills, poverty, and health concerns of the day. It is expected to draw more than 700 members from across seven states—Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority was founded in 1920 at Howard University in Washington, DC, in the belief that the social nature of Sorority life should not overshadow the real mission of progressive organizations. The international organization's more than 100,000 initiated members and affiliates have given millions of volunteer hours to educate the public, provide scholarships, support organized charities and promote legislation for social and civic change. Zeta Phi Beta has more than 800 chapters in the United States, Japan, Germany, England, Belgium, the Republic of Korea, the Caribbean and most recently Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

I send a sincere "thank you" to Zeta Phi Beta for your dedication to promoting aca-

demic excellence and instilling in your members a lifelong commitment to service.

TRIBUTE TO DR. SAUNDRA H. GLOVER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Sandra H. Glover on the occasion of her retirement from the University of South Carolina. Serving as Associate Dean for Health Disparities and Social Justice of the Arnold School of Public Health and Director of the Institute for Partnerships to Eliminate Health Disparities (IPEHD), Dr. Glover has devoted her life to fighting inequity in health status and health care.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. famously said at the 1966 National Convention of the Medical Committee for Human Rights: "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane." I profoundly agree with that view. While many bemoan the poor health status of many Americans and their lack of access to care, Dr. Glover spent decades working to correct this shocking and inhumane injustice.

In her fight to eliminate health disparities, Dr. Glover has brought to bear a plethora of weapons. She has conducted research, winning millions of dollars in grants and leading efforts to create the Health Disparities Research Network. She has been a prolific author, publishing dozens of articles in academic journals. She has been an educator, working to address the dearth of minority public health professionals and earning the South Carolina Rural Health Association's Excellence in Education Award. She has been a community leader, serving on the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) commissioner's health disparities advisory board and partnering with DHEC's Office of Minority Health on a number of statewide initiatives. In 2010, she was appointed to the Executive Committee of the Congressional Black Caucus Institute 21st Century Council, leading the health policy subcommittee.

In all of these endeavors, Dr. Glover has tackled the complicated problem of health disparities from a wide array of angles. Her publications have covered topics as diverse as HIV, mental health, diabetes, asthma, access to care, and health services delivery. IPEHD, under her directorship, has been engaged in research and community activities that address HIV, cervical cancer, head and neck cancers, prostate cancer, obesity, mental health, autoimmune diseases, musculoskeletal injuries, and environmental health. In all of her work, Dr. Glover has focused on identifying and developing partnerships, engaging vulnerable and underserved communities in research, prevention and intervention activities, and training underrepresented minorities in biomedical and behavioral research.

I am particularly grateful for Dr. Glover's role in organizing the James E. Clyburn Health Disparities Lecture Series. She has taken the lead in developing this annual lecture series to bring together academicians, clinicians, and community partners to share research and best practices on promoting health equity.